

Obituaries

WA KARUNARATNE

Dr Wickramaratnyge Ajitha Karunaratne died on 28 June. He was born on 27 November 1908 in Colombo, Ceylon and graduated LMS in 1935 at Ceylon Medical College. He then served as House Officer at Colombo General Hospital and as District Medical Officer of Health. In 1943 he was appointed Lecturer in Hygiene at Ceylon Medical College and a part-time Lecturer at the Government Training College, Colombo. Dr Karunaratne came to the United Kingdom in 1946 for postgraduate studies under a Ceylon Government Scholarship and obtained a MB BS in London the following year. On returning to Ceylon he was appointed Staff Officer at the Department of Health of the Ministry of Health. His duties included the training of all Public Health staff at the Department and administering food and drugs control in Ceylon. He was also Lecturer in Hygiene at Ceylon Medical College. Later on in his career Dr Karunaratne became Director of the General Health Services, Sri Lanka.

Dr Karunaratne was elected a Fellow in 1953.

JA MCBRIDE

Dr John Aloysius McBride died on 29 May. He was born on 4 April 1932 in Paisley and graduated MB ChB at Glasgow University in 1957. After house appointments at Glasgow Royal Infirmary Dr McBride became a Registrar at the Western General Hospital in Edinburgh in 1961. He went to London in 1963 to take up Registrar's post at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School and then spent a year as Research Fellow at St Elizabeth Hospital and Tufts University Medical School, Boston. He returned to London for a year and then moved permanently to Canada where he was appointed Assistant Professor of Pathology and Medicine at McMaster University Medical School, Hamilton, Ontario. He was also Haematologist at Henderson General Hospital, Hamilton. Dr McBride became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Canada in 1974 and a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London in 1983.

Dr McBride was elected to the Fellowship of the RCPE in 1971.

CTM SANG

Mr Christopher Tsoi Mook Sang died on 1 August. He was born on 14 June 1943 in Guyana, South America and graduated MB ChB at Edinburgh University in 1966. Mr Sang went to Canada in 1971 as Research Fellow in Cardiology at the University of Western Ontario and in 1973 became Senior Resident, Cardiovascular Surgery, St Michael's Hospital, Toronto. On his return to Scotland he was appointed Cardiothoracic Surgery Registrar at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary and then at the Royal Infirmary in Glasgow. In 1977 Mr Sang held a Clinical Fellowship in

Cardiac Surgery at the John Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore and then took the post of Senior Registrar in Cardiothoracic Surgery at Guy's Hospital, St Thomas's Hospital and Brook General Hospital in London. He was appointed Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon to the Lothian Health Board based at the Royal Infirmary and City Hospitals, Edinburgh in 1982. Dr Sang became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1971.

Dr Sang was elected to the Fellowship of this College in 1992.

DE WILLIAMS

Dr David Edward Williams died on 10 July. He was born on 13 November 1914 in Edinburgh where he graduated MB ChB in 1939. During World War II he served in the RAF and then joined a general practice in Leith. In 1968 he became formally attached to Professor John Strong's Unit at the Western General Hospital. Dr Williams was also a Divisional Police Surgeon and Director of the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society. He later became Lecturer at Departments of General Practice and Forensic Medicine at Edinburgh University.

Dr Williams was elected to the Fellowship of this College in 1970.

ED CALDWELL

Sir Eric Dick Caldwell died on 11 July 2000. He was born on 6 July 1907 in Edinburgh where he graduated MB ChB in 1933. After graduation Sir Dick joined the Royal Navy and during World War II served in the Atlantic, Mediterranean and the Pacific. After the war Dr Caldwell became Medical Specialist to the Royal Navy in Hong Kong. From 1956 to 1958 he was Senior Medical Specialist at the Principal Naval Hospital at Haslar, Portsmouth, and for the next two years Medical Officer In Charge and Senior Medical Specialist to the Royal Navy families in Malta. Dr Caldwell became Surgeon Vice-Admiral in 1966 and then took over as Medical Director-General of the Royal Navy. Finally in 1970 he became Executive Director of the Medical Council on Alcoholism. Sir Dick was awarded CB in 1965 and KBE in 1969.

He became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London in 1968 and was elected to the Fellowship of this College in 1962.

GW FENTON

Professor George Wallace Fenton died on 27 July. He was born on 30 July 1931 in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, and graduated MB ChB BAO at Queen's University Belfast in 1954. He then spent two years as a houseman at Belfast City Hospital and Stobhill General Hospital in Glasgow

before moving to London in 1959 to work as Medical Registrar at Willesden General Hospital and the Bethlem Royal and Maudsley Hospitals. In 1962 he became Research Assistant in the Electroencephalographic Section of the Department of Psychiatry at Middlesex Hospital Medical School. He was promoted to lecturer status there in 1964. After a brief spell as Senior Lecturer at the Department of Psychiatry at London University, Professor Fenton was appointed Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist at Bethlem Royal and Maudsley Hospitals in 1967. He took charge of the Epilepsy Unit there in 1970 and continued his research work in electroencephalography. Professor Fenton then moved permanently to Dundee where he was appointed Consultant Psychiatrist for Dundee Healthcare NHS Trust and Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at Ninewells Hospital and Medical School. Professor Fenton became a Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in 1976 and a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London in 1992.

He was elected to the Fellowship of this College in 1974.

AP LITTLEWOOD

Dr Aylwin Percy Littlewood died recently. He was born on 16 December 1913 in Shantung, China. Dr Littlewood attended Edinburgh University and graduated MB ChB in 1938. After a houseman year at Ayr County Hospital and Cumberland Infirmary, Dr Littlewood went to Mukden (now Shenyang) Medical College in China as a missionary. On his return to the UK in 1942 he spent three months as Clinical Assistant at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary and then joined the staff at the Tuberculosis Unit of Bangour Hospital for six months. In 1944 Dr Littlewood was appointed Physician-in-Charge of the Tuberculosis Wards and Pleurisy Unit at Bridge of Earn Hospital. He then moved to East Fortune Hospital in 1950 and was appointed Consultant Chest Physician there in 1953.

Dr Littlewood was elected to the Fellowship in 1963.

LG WHITBY

Professor Lionel Gordon Whitby died in Edinburgh on 12 March. Gordon was born in 1926 into a distinguished academic medical family. His father Sir Lionel Whitby was Regius Professor of Physic at Cambridge University and founder of the Army Blood Transfusion Service. His mother (Ethel), also a medical graduate, was described by a distinguished family friend as 'a formidable lady'.

Gordon was educated at Sherborne, Eton and King's College, Cambridge, from which he graduated first class honours in Parts I and II of the Natural Sciences Tripos. He remained in Cambridge, funded by an MRC scholarship, and spent the next three years researching riboflavin metabolism (from which he earned a PhD) and preparing to enter medical school (the Middlesex Hospital) from which he graduated MB ChB in 1956. In 1958 he began his training in Chemical Pathology at the Hammersmith Hospital and two years later was appointed University Biochemist at Addenbroke's Hospital. In 1963 he was appointed to the first Chair of Clinical Chemistry at Edinburgh University and held this post for 28 years during which time he made outstanding contributions to Scottish Medicine and

Edinburgh University.

Gordon established and maintained a high quality academically orientated Clinical Chemistry service in Edinburgh, which was internationally recognised. A clarity of vision, boundless energy, a meticulous attention to detail and extraordinary administrative and management skills combined together to make this department a centre of excellence for automation and computer assisted data handling. He promoted tirelessly the development of many young academics and did much to see them well settled. He was elected Dean of the Faculty of Medicine for the period 1969–72 and again 1982–86. He also served as Vice Principal of Edinburgh University between 1979–83. He was curator of Patronage of Edinburgh University for many years, and enjoyed contributing to the University's sporting, art and music activities. He was a Trustee of the National Library of Scotland.

Once asked about the most important committee with which he had been involved he replied without hesitation, 'the Advisory Committee on Distinction Awards' and when pressed further he opined that the work of this committee was at the heart of medical practice in a National Health Service.

Gordon was a committed Christian. His faith and a deep love and affection for his wife and family were more important to him than personal academic accolades.

He was elected to the Fellowship in 1968.